

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of : Customer Number: 31824  
Kouji Masuda, et al. : Confirmation Number: 5078  
Application No.: 10/572,558 : Group Art Unit: 1764  
Filed: September 20, 2006 : Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
For: EXHAUST EMISSION :  
PURIFYING APPARATUS :  
FOR ENGINE : .

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

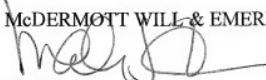
Each foreign reference was first cited in corresponding Japanese Application Nos. 2003-339246, and 2003-339247 on February 26, 2008. A copy of the Japanese Office Action is

attached for the Examiner's information. Reference No. 1 is a corresponding English language publication of Reference No. 2.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 502203 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

  
Mark J. Itri  
Registration No. 36,171

18191 Von Karman Ave., Suite 500  
Irvine, CA 92612-7108  
Phone: 949.851.0633 MJI:mmh  
Facsimile: 949.851.9348  
**Date: March 24, 2008**

**Please recognize our Customer No. 31824  
as our correspondence address.**

ORC 435800-1.050203.0145